

**NOTICE TO CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND PROCESSORS**

2004 Federal Groundfish Management Measures that Affect Fishermen in Federal and State Waters off California

**TRAWL<sup>1</sup>****LIMITED ENTRY****November – December****All Bottom Trawling is Prohibited within the Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) <sup>10</sup>.*****Oregon border south to 38° N latitude***

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between Shoreline and 250 fathoms.

***38° N south to 36° N latitude***

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between Shoreline and 200 fathoms along the mainland coast; shoreline to 200 fathoms around islands (except the Farallon Islands). Also the waters around the Farrallon Islands are closed shoreline to the 10 fathom depth contour.

***36° N latitude south to Mexico border***

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between Shoreline and 150 fathoms along the mainland coast and around islands.

The actual boundaries of the RCA are defined by a series of straight lines between “way points”. The coordinates for the way points are available from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS-SEA-04-07). Vessels may transit the RCA with or without groundfish onboard provided the gear is stowed (see federal register for the definition of stowed).

**LANDINGS ARE RESTRICTED TO THE SPECIES OR SPECIES GROUPS LISTED BELOW!****No Darkblotched Rockfish Retention Allowed!**

North of 40°10' N. Latitude <sup>2/</sup>	NOV-DEC		South of 40°10' N. Latitude <sup>2/</sup>	NOV-DEC
Minor slope rockfish <sup>3/</sup>	1,800 lb/ 2 months	1	Minor slope rockfish <sup>3/</sup>	
Pacific ocean perch	3,000 lb/ 2 months	2	40°10' - 38° N. lat.	10,000 lb/ 2 months
Minor shelf rockfish <sup>3/</sup> & Widow rockfish		3	South of 38° N. lat.	50,000 lb/ 2 months
large footrope trawl		4	Splitnose	
midwater trawl for Widow rockfish		5	40°10' - 38° N. lat.	10,000 lb/ 2 months
small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup> for minor shelf & widow	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>	6	South of 38° N. lat.	50,000 lb/ 2 months
Canary rockfish		7	Canary rockfish	
small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>	9	small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>
Yellowtail		10	Minor shelf rockfish, and Chilipepper rockfish <sup>3/</sup>	
midwater trawl	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>	12	large footrope or midwater trawl for Minor shelf rockfish	300 lb/ month
small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>	13	large footrope or midwater trawl for Chilipepper rockfish	8,000 lb/ 2 months
Minor nearshore rockfish		14	small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup> for minor shelf & chilipepper	300 lb/ month
small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>	16	Bocaccio	
DTS complex	Providing only large footrope gear is used to land any groundfish species during the entire limit period, then large footrope trawl trip limits apply. If small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup> is used at any time in any area (North of 40°10' N. lat., shoreward or seaward of RCA) during the entire limit period, then small footrope trawl limits apply.	17	large footrope or midwater trawl	300 lb/ 2 months

North of 40°10' N. Latitude <sup>2/</sup>	NOV-DEC		South of 40°10' N. Latitude <sup>2/</sup>	NOV-DEC
Sablefish		18	Minor nearshore rockfish	
large footrope gear	17,000 lb/ 2 months	19	small footrope trawl <sup>7/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>6/</sup>
small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup>		20	DTS complex	If fishing North of 40°10' N. lat. at any time during the cumulative limit period, differential trip limits based on footrope size and crossover provisions will apply during the entire limit period.
Longspine thornyhead		21		
large footrope gear	18,000 lb/ 2 months	22		
small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup>		23	Sablefish	17,000 lb/ 2 months
Shortspine thornyhead		24	Longspine thornyhead	18,000 lb / 2 months
large footrope gear	5,100 lb/ 2 months	25	Shortspine thornyhead	5,100 lb/ 2 months
small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup>		26	Dover sole	48,000 lb/ 2 months
Dover sole		27		
large footrope gear	40,000 lb/ 2 months	28		
small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup>		29		
Flatfish	Providing only large footrope gear is used to land any groundfish species during the entire limit period, then large footrope trawl trip limits apply. If small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup> is used at any time in any area (North of 40°10' N. lat., shoreward or seaward of RCA) during the entire limit period, then small footrope trawl limits apply.	30	Flatfish	If fishing North of 40°10' N. lat. at any time during the cumulative limit period, differential trip limits based on footrope size and crossover provisions will apply during the entire limit period.
All other flatfish, Petrale sole, & Rex sole		31	All other flatfish <sup>4/</sup> & Rex sole	All other flatfish plus petrale & rex sole: 120,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 100,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole
large footrope gear for All other flatfish <sup>4/</sup> & Rex sole	All other flatfish, rex sole, and petrale sole: 100,000 lb/ 2 months	32	Petrable sole	
large footrope gear for Petrale sole		33	Arrowtooth flounder	100,000 lb/ 2 months
small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup>		34	California Halibut	See Open Access Trawl flyer
Arrowtooth flounder		35		
large footrope gear	100,000 lb/ 2 months	36		
small footrope gear <sup>7/</sup>		37		
Whiting <sup>5/</sup>	10,000 lb/trip	38	Whiting <sup>5/</sup>	10,000 lb/trip
Lingcod <sup>9/</sup>	500 lb/ 2 months	39	Lingcod <sup>9/</sup>	500 lb/ 2 months
Other Fish <sup>9/</sup>	Not limited	41	Other Fish <sup>9/</sup>	Not limited

1/ Gear requirements and prohibitions are explained above. See IV. A.(14).

2/ "North" means 40°10' N. lat. to the U.S.-Canada border. (40°10' N. lat. is about 20 nm south of Cape Mendocino, CA.) & "South" means 40°10' N. lat. to the U.S.-Mexico border. (40°10' N. lat. is about 20 nm south of Cape Mendocino, CA.)

3/ N. of 40°10' N Bocaccio and chilipepper are included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish and splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish.

S. of 40°10' N Yellowtail is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish and POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish.

4/ "Other" flatfish means all flatfish at 50 CFR 660.302 except those in this Table 3 with species specific management measures, including trip limits.

5/ The whiting "per trip" limit in the Eureka area shoreward of 100 fm is 10,000 lb/ trip all year. Outside Eureka area, the 20,000 lb/ trip limit applies. See IV. B.(3).

6/ Closed means that it is prohibited to take and retain, possess, or land the designated species in the time or area indicated. See IV. A.(7).

7/ Small footrope trawl means a bottom trawl net with a footrope no larger than 8 inches (20 cm) in diameter.

8/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length.

9/ Other fish are defined at 50 CFR 660.302, as those groundfish species or species groups for which there is no trip limit, size limit, quota, or harvest guideline.

10/ The "Rockfish Conservation Area" is a gear and/or sector specific closed area generally described by depth contours but specifically defined by lat/long coordinates set out at IV. A.(17)(f), that may vary seasonally.

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.



If you have any questions about these regulations, please contact either:  
Mike Fukushima, Eureka @ (707)441-5797, Brenda Erwin, Belmont @ (650)631-6740  
Susan Ashcraft, Belmont @ (650) 631-6786, or Steve Wertz, Los Alamitos @ (562)342-7184.  
For updates check out PFMC's web page @ [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org) or for NMFS NW Region  
<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/lpress/sfdpress.htm>  
[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index\\_regs.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index_regs.html)  
California Department of Fish and Game – Marine Region

**NOTICE TO CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND PROCESSORS**

2004 Federal Groundfish Management Measures that Affect Fishermen in Federal and State Waters<sup>1</sup> off California

**TRAWL****OPEN ACCESS**

**November – December**

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**All Bottom Trawling Is Prohibited Within The Trawl Rockfish  
Conservation Area (RCA) Except<sup>2</sup> Pink Shrimp.**

***40° 10' N to 38° N***

**Prawn:** the RCA is generally defined as the waters between Shoreline and 250 fathoms.

**CA Halibut & Sea Cucumber:** the RCA is generally defined as the waters between 30 and 250 fathoms.

***38° N south to 36° N***

**Prawn:** the RCA is generally defined as the waters between Shoreline and 200 fathoms along the mainland coast; shoreline to 200 fathoms around islands

**CA Halibut & Sea Cucumber:** the RCA is generally defined as the waters between 30 and 200 fathoms along the mainland coast; shoreline to 200 fathoms around islands (except the Farallon Islands). Also the waters around the Farrallon Islands are closed shoreline to the 10 fathom depth contour.

***36° N south to 34° 27' N***

**Prawn:** the RCA is generally defined as the waters between Shoreline and 150 fathoms along the mainland coast and around islands.

**CA Halibut & Sea Cucumber:** the RCA is generally defined as the waters between 30 and 150 fathoms along the mainland coast and around islands.

***34° 27' N south to Mexico border***

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between 75 and 150 fathoms along the mainland coast and around islands.

The actual boundaries of the RCA are defined by a series of straight lines between “way points”. The coordinates for the way points are available from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS-SEA-04-07). Footrope restrictions see note 3. Vessels may transit the RCA with or without groundfish onboard provided the gear is stowed (see federal register for the definition of stowed).

**RIDGEBACK & GOLDEN PRAWN, CA HALIBUT, AND SEA CUCUMBER*****LANDINGS ARE RESTRICTED TO THE SPECIES OR SPECIES GROUPS LISTED BELOW!***

- ❖ No more than 300 pounds total groundfish bycatch\* per trip. **The following sub-limits and cumulative limits still apply in conjunction with the 300 pound total bycatch limit.**

- **All Rockfish: CLOSED.**
- Flatfish: 3,000 pounds may be landed per month, no more than 300 pounds of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs. CA Halibut fishery south of 38° 57' 30"N only: no more than 300 pounds of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs, sand sole, starry flounder, rock sole, or curlfin sole.
- Sablefish: North of 36° N, 300 lbs/day OR one landing per fishing week<sup>8</sup> up to 900 pounds, with a 2-month cumulative limit of 3,600 pounds and South of 36° N, 350 lbs/day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1050 lbs; no cumulative limit.
- Lingcod: CLOSED.
- CA scorpionfish<sup>10</sup>: No more than 300 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period. PERMIT REQUIRED, See State Regulations for Nearshore Restrictions.
- Other Groundfish<sup>11</sup> (sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadier): No cumulative limit.

\*Pounds of groundfish bycatch landed cannot exceed pounds of target species landed except spiny dogfish landings may exceed the amount of target species landed. Spiny dogfish are limited by the 300 pound per trip over all groundfish limit. Vessels participation in the CA Halibut fishery south of 38° 57' 30"N (only) are allowed to land up to 100 lb/day of groundfish without the ratio requirement, provided that at least one CA Halibut is landed.

NOTES: 1. California adopts federal groundfish regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 189, Commercial Groundfish Fishing)

2. Pink shrimp trawl may be used in the RCA with excluders.

3. Large footrope (greater than 8" in diameter); Small footrope (8" or less in diameter). All trawl types may be used seaward of the RCA. Only small footrope and midwater trawl is permissible shoreward of the RCA. A vessel may have more than one type of trawl gear on board, but the most restrictive limit for any of the gear applies for that trip. A vessel may not have limited entry bottom trawl gear on board if that vessel also has trawl gear on board that is permitted for use within a RCA.

4. The 2-month fishing period are: January-February; March-April; May-June; July-August; September-October; November-December.

5. DTS Complex – Dover sole, longspine and shortspine thornyheads, and trawl caught sablefish.

6. Sablefish trip limits are in round weight equivalent. California allows dressed weight to be reported on landing receipts. If so reported, the receipts must be marked with the code for "dressed head off" (02) in the condition column. The equivalent round weight is computed by multiplying 1.6 times the dressed weight.

7. Groundfish species or species groups for which there is a trip limit, size limit, or OY (optimum yield) must be sorted prior to weighing and the weight reported separately on the Fish and Game receipt.

8. Landing receipts for groundfish must be maintained onboard the vessel during and for 15 days after the end of the cumulative limit period during which the landings occurred (63 FR 34606) (Fish & Game Code 8046.1).

9. Operating in areas with different trip limits. If a vessel takes and retains a groundfish species or species groups; a.) in an area where a more restrictive limit applies before fishing in an area where a more liberal limit or no limit applies; or b.) in an area where a more liberal or no limit applies and takes and retains, possesses or lands that species or species group in an area where a more restrictive limit applies; then the vessel is subject to the more restrictive limit for the period.

10. State Nearshore Fishery Permit and/or Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permit Required.

11. Other Groundfish: leopard and soupfin shark, spiny dogfish; big, California and longnose skate; ratfish; finescale codling; and grenadier.



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For updates check out PFMC's web page @ [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org) or for NMFS NW Region

<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/1press/sfdpress.htm>

[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index\\_regs.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index_regs.html)

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